



BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

KATIE RICE

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May 15, 2013

Ms. Tracie Billington
California Department of Water Resources
IRWM Grants/Financial Assistance Branch
P.O. Box 942836
Sacramento, CA 94236

RE: Letter of Support for the Memorial Park Detention Basin Project

Dear Ms. Billington,

I am writing to express my strong support for the Memorial Park Detention Basin Project in the Town of San Anselmo, Marin County. An application for funding has been submitted for Round 2 of the Stormwater Flood Management Grant program (Proposition 1E) by the Town of San Anselmo in partnership with the Marin County Flood Control and Water Conservation District. This project is a necessary and essential component of the Ross Valley Flood Protection and Watershed program which aims to contain the 100 year flood. This project has benefit for not only the Town of San Anselmo but for everyone downstream of the site including the Town of Ross, the City of Larkspur, and the unincorporated towns of Kentfield and Greenbrae.

As the Marin County Supervisor for District 2 - Ross Valley, I have witnessed first-hand the damage caused by flooding and the effect it has had on the economic and social welfare of the watershed's communities. In the flood of December 2005, three of the towns in the valley experienced debilitating damages to firehouses, police stations, and town halls. Long-standing shops shut their doors for good and many residents never quite recovered their losses. The level of devastation to merchants, residents, and essential service providers combined with the damages to public properties approached \$90 million.

The flood of 2005 caused a renewed surge of public interest and support for finding long-term solutions to this recurring problem. In a 2007 mail ballot, the property owners of Ross Valley elected to assess themselves a fee that will raise \$44 million over 20 years. The fee revenue is to be used exclusively for funding the local share of major and minor flood control infrastructure projects such as the Memorial Park Detention Basin Project.

Thank you for your consideration of this important project.

Sincerely,

Katie Rice
Marin County Board of Supervisors - District 2